

Monroe County Baseball Region 2021 Handbook and League Rules



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Monroe County Baseball Region

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1. Introduction

The Monroe County Baseball Region (MCBR) Handbook will describe the mission, philosophy, rules, and details associated with Monroe County Baseball Region. The Handbook is intended to be a reference document for managers, coaches, League administrators, players, parents and others associated with the League.

1.1 Mission

To provide serious baseball players who aspire to play baseball in high school, college and beyond with a safe, enjoyable, and competitive environment in which to improve their skills.

1.2 Goals

The Goals of Monroe County Baseball Region are as follows:

- To provide a safe, fun and positive experience while playing baseball
- To provide high quality play to aid in both individual and team skills
- To work with local HS coaches and align Programs such that MCBR is a feeder program for the High Schools
- To provide the best competitive environment for players.
- To provide the best baseball facilities and equipment available while maintaining a balanced budget
- To improve the enthusiasm level and work ethic of all **Monroe County Baseball Region** players to allow them to excel in future baseball experiences and all personal endeavors.
- To provide quality program management/leadership and excellent officiating to ensure proper sportsmanship and allow quality, and ethical, play in every contest.

1.3 History

Monroe County Baseball Region was formed in 1994. The initial League was affiliated with the National Babe Ruth Organization. The 13-15 year-old Junior Division (which began with 6 teams in one division) continued to evolve. In 1999 Monroe County Baseball Region also expanded by adding a 10-team 16-18 year-old Senior League.

In 2001, Monroe County Baseball Region added a 12 and under division with 7 teams and expanded to 11 teams in 2003.

In 2002 a trial for a separate 13 year-old PREP Division was held with 6 teams. Based on the PREP success, the 13-15 Division officially adapted the 13 PREP Leagues in 2003.

In 2004, Monroe County Baseball Region added a 10U Division.

In 2005, Monroe County Baseball Region broke its National affiliation with Babe Ruth baseball at the 12U and below level due to the fact that National wanted to re-charter and break up the League into smaller local Leagues. This change in direction from Babe Ruth did not match the mission and goals of the League and we began a new partnership with USSSA at the 12U and 10U level. The 16-19 League expanded to 18 teams and the 13 Prep League expanded to 10 teams in 2005. The League also added an 8U Program.

In 2006, the League expanded with more teams in the 10U, 12U, 13U and 15U Divisions. In addition, the League started its 1st ever special day at Frontier Field for the 10U and 12U. The changes in rules and move to USSSA have helped the League grow.

In 2007, the League continued to expand with even more teams in the 15U, 12U, and 10U Divisions. The League added home and away jerseys for 10U and 12U. A second successful 10U/12U day at Frontier field was held with over 700 people attending.

In 2008, the 19U Division split into a 17U Division and a 19U Division. Between the two Divisions the League expanded to over 20 teams. The 10U Division also expanded by adding a 9U Division. Overall MCBR expanded to over 120 teams.

In 2009-10, the U10 and U12 age groups formed multiple Divisions to continuously improve competitive play. At the U10 level, Divisions broke into American, National, and International based on team skill level and age. The U12 age group split to form American and National Divisions.

In 2011, the U13 Division formed two distinct Divisions based on skill level. The U14-U15 League formed the Clemente and Mantle divisions to further divide teams by ability and provide for quality play.

In 2012, the MCBR Program grew to over 190 teams. The Program implemented a mandatory coach training program for all coaches. The Program instituted fall ball for age groups U13-U15. The 7th annual USSSA-Red Wing day was held and over 2,000 MCBR attendees were treated to another outstanding event which included Rochester Red Wing player/coach led instructional sessions on and off the field, a buffet dinner, first pitch festivities, parade and the Red Wing doubleheader.

In 2013, MCBR initiated 50-70 baseball at the U12 level while keeping a 46-60 Division for development. In addition, MCBR added August baseball for U10-U12 teams and continued fall baseball for U13-U15 teams. The 8th annual USSSA-Red Wing event was divided over two days. The U8-U12 Program was hosted on May 11, while the U13-U16 Divisions event occurred on June 9. New hats were introduced.

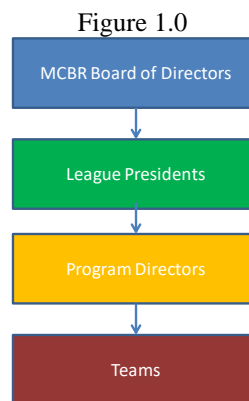
In 2016, MCBR added the Select (formerly Open) League with Divisions at ages 13u through 17u. The purpose and design of the Select League is to bring together the area club teams and the top town Program teams so all the top area high school players have a chance to play each other in MCBR. The Select League season is designed to accommodate teams that play in weekend tournaments. The season is 8 to 12 midweek games. There are no Division titles awards or playoffs. In addition, 2016 saw the merger of the traditional 13 Prep League with the 15u League to form the Jeter Divisions.

Selecting the best players from each town and playing every game against the best players from other towns has provided all players a great opportunity to improve their baseball skills, demonstrate sportsmanship, and be prepared for the next step in their baseball careers.

In 2020, MCBR published COVID-19 Return to Play Guidelines allowing MCBR play to continue while the State of NY closed down many school, recreational and business activities during the pandemic. MCBR was able to successfully complete a shortened 2020 season with the cooperation of all players, coaches and their families.

2 League Organizational Structure

The organizational structure for MCBR is shown below in Figure #1.0. The overall governing body of MCBR is the Board of Directors that oversees operations for the entire organization. The organization is divided into Leagues based on age groups. Each Program is a series of one or more teams generally defined by geographic boundaries with the exception of the approved select Programs. The remainder of this handbook is organized to discuss the rules and procedures for each of these organizational entities. Finally, a section of the handbook is dedicated to the operational set of baseball rules that are common across the entire organization.



2.1 Board of Directors

The overall governing body of MCBR is the Board of Directors. The size of the Board of Directors is decided by the existing board. A majority vote of the board is needed to increase the size of the board. Members of the Board will be elected to 3-year terms. The existing board may extend the period of service with a majority agreement of the board members. When an open position occurs (via: member resigns or is removed) any new person may declare their interest in the position by putting a request in writing to the Board. It takes majority board vote to fill the vacant position. The new members' term expires at the Leagues' next scheduled election.

The Board of Directors (BOD) will have a meeting to elect new officials as necessary. One member of the executive board must nominate any new candidates. Voting will be conducted and coordinated by the Board President.

The election of a new board member will be the top vote getter from a pool of eligible voters which is current board members.

There is a President for each League. Each League President is to be a member of the Executive Board.

If there is concern about the performance of a Board member, a majority vote of the combined group of remaining board members would be needed to impeach, and subsequently remove, the Board member.

The Board President (or designee) will be the interface to the USSSA management up to and including USSSA National. Other responsibilities at the Board level include:

- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Registrar
- USSSA Insurance and Background Check Verification
- Purchase baseballs
- NAYS registration, training completion verification, renewals Coordinator
- Special Events Coordinator (i.e., Red Wing Day)
- Webmaster (Page info and design, and season turnover)
- Player and Coach Registrations
- Final approval of umpire contracts by majority a vote.

- League Presidents – who are typically members of the BOD

New responsibilities may be formed at the discretion of the Board of Directors and staffed by a majority approval of the Board.

2.2 League Presidents

Each League President has the following responsibilities:

- Running Meetings with Coaches
- Making sure dates, fees, and respective League information is provided to the webmaster
- Treasurer establishes budgets and fees for all Leagues and shares with League Presidents (subject to approval of the Board of Directors)
- Verifying with Registrar that all rostered coaches have completed their USSSA background check and NAYS certification process.
- Placing teams within divisions in a specific League.
- Establishing regular season number of games and initial game schedule (Coaches are responsible for changes during the season.)
- Establishing playoff structure
- Fielding questions from coaches during the season and resolves disputes or protests

2.3 Program Directors

Each recognized Town Program within MCBR must have a MCBR Board approved Program Director(s). Town Program directors listing may be found on the MCBR website

Director Responsibilities:

- Will be the single interface with MCBR representatives on behalf of the Town Program coaches (Head Coaches to have minimal direct contact with MCBR Board members)
- Point of contact for issue resolution regarding any team within respective Program
- Final word on placement of teams in divisions
- Responsible for payment of any fines levied during the course of the year
- Point of contact for parents within locales
- Responsible for timely submission of tryout rosters within 2 weeks of tryout
- Overseeing the coach selection for teams within the Program
- Ensuring all coaches are following the code of conduct
- Establishing and ensuring all the rules for Program team tryouts have been followed.
- Documenting and maintaining the team creation and player selection process for each team in the Program. All questions regarding the process should be directed to the respective Program Director.

Programs are responsible for tryout execution and all decisions made regarding coach and player selection per approved MCBR rules

2.4 Team Managers/Coaches

Each Team within MCBR must be approved by a Program Director(s).

Town Program Director Responsibilities:

- Making sure all Program coaches know all MCBR processes/read MCBR information webpages.
- Conducting tryouts & Selection and Confirmation of players.
- Instructing all Program teams on how to procure USSSA.com team insurance and manage USSSA.com team accounts; which are separate and in addition to the MCBR team accounts/rosters.
- Attending (or Program representative) all Mandatory League Meetings.

- Coordinating Team Schedule for all Leagues – including Rainouts/Rescheduling.
- Making sure Program coaches report game Scores per our online instructions.
- Following Code of Conduct and leading by example when it comes to sportsmanship.
- Completing Field Procurement for their games.
- Completing background checks and certifications in a timely manner for all coaches.
- Completing tryout attendance, registration, roster submission, and payment of League fees by the dates set forth by the respective League.
- Each Program is responsible for their own individual player fees and team budgets. Any question regarding player refunds must be directed to the team or respective Program Director as MCBR is not involved in Team/Program finances. MCBR does not accept checks from player parents.
- Submitting tryout roster to Program Director and MCBR Registrar within 2 weeks of final tryout date.
- Making sure all teams in the Town Program have paid according to the MCBR posted/instructed deadlines; paid at Program or Team level only.

3. LEAGUE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

3.1 League Organization

MCBR baseball is organized into a series of Leagues by age group. The following Leagues have been established by the Board of directors:

- 8U
- 10U
- 12U
- 13/15U Jeter, Clemente & Mantle
- 17U
- Select League (Divisions 13u thru 17u) (Only when enough teams register for Select)

3.2 Rainouts / Rescheduling

The home team manager is responsible for checking the field in case of bad weather. This includes home games at MCC and other fields provided by Monroe County Baseball Region. In cases where the field is not playable the home team manager is responsible for notifying the scheduler of officials and the opposing manager 2 hours BEFORE game time.

If a team manager fails to notify the other Team and League scheduler 1:30 hrs. before game time and the umpires and opposing team show for the game, the offending team may lose the home game when it is rescheduled. The offending team will also be charged for associated umpire fees (Exception: no fee if the game is not rescheduled)

NOTE: If a manager cannot check the field, a designee should be assigned (i.e., assistant coach or team parent). This should be established in advance.

All games that are started that are suspended due to rain will follow the following policy:

- All regular season games that have met the minimum innings requirement (as follows) for a legal game shall be declared a completed game:
 - U13 and up: 5 innings (4.5 if home team is ahead)
 - U10 / U12: 4 innings (3.5 innings if home team is ahead)
- Any regular season game not meeting the minimum inning requirement will be suspended and will be rescheduled and completed at the earliest possible date. If the rescheduled game is part of a doubleheader, the suspended game will be completed first.
- All playoff games regardless of innings played will be suspended and will be played to completion (unless League President approves shorter game as complete).

Rescheduling games following a rainout

- Home coach is to determine a reschedule date within 3 days after the rain out date. Opposing coach must agree. Upon agreement, home coach sends e-mail to League President (with copy to opposing coach). League President approves changes and updates web site
- Failure to comply with the above policy without getting an extension from the League President will be a forfeiture of the game by the home team. If the coaches cannot reach agreement within the 3 days, an email should be sent to the President who will arbitrate a date. If the visiting coach does not respond in a timely manner or is not cooperative in reaching an agreement the League President may declare a forfeiture of the visiting team as well.

Additional rescheduling guidelines may be available in each age specific rules guideline.

3.3 Game Cancellation Policy

The following are legal reasons for the postponement of an already scheduled game

- Field is unplayable as determined by the home manager
- Field is unplayable as determined by the umpires
- School function that will not allow a team to field 9 players. The school function is for the immediate players only (i.e. does not apply to brothers, sisters, etc. THEREFORE, HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION IS NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR 11U-15U Leagues.) It is assumed that already scheduled school functions would already be rescheduled prior to the final schedule being set, this may apply to school games that are rained out and made up at the end of the year.
- NO games shall be cancelled the day of the game due to lack of being able to field a complete team without League President approval. The game shall be declared a forfeit.
- Mutual agreement by BOTH coaches. In this case the reschedule date must be decided immediately and the new date communicated immediately to the League scheduler. ANY GAME CANCELLATION WITHIN 7 DAYS OF THE ORIGINAL SCHEDULE WILL BE SUBJECT TO A \$25 CANCELLATION FEE. THE FEE IS DUE TO THE LEAGUE PRESIDENT OR DESIGNEE. THE GAME WILL NOT BE SCHEDULED WITHOUT THE FEE BEING RECEIVED AND MAY RESULT IN FORFEITURE OF THE GAME.
- Other excused reason that is APPROVED BY THE LEAGUE PRESIDENT

3.4 Playoffs

The League President will determine the format of the playoffs for any given season. The League President shall communicate the format at pre-season League meetings with coaches and solicit feedback from the coaches.

Teams will be seeded based on record. Tie breakers are as follows: 1: Head-to-head record, 2: Runs allowed all games, 3: coin flip. League President may modify the exact playoff format based on weather, time available, number of teams, etc.

FOR U13 DIVISIONS and higher, A PLAYER MUST PLAY IN 60% OF ALL THE SCHEDULED GAMES TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR PLAYOFFS. Call ups are excluded from the 60% rule.

The awards for playoffs are determined at an individual League level.

Pitching and mercy rules for the playoffs are the same as the regular season.

3.5 Score Reporting / Protests

After each game, the winning coach is responsible for logging into their team website account and enter the game score using the Edit Game function. If a team fails to record game score for one week, the game may be reported as a double forfeit. Score reporting is not just important for tracking game results, but also for our internal record keeping for reconciling umpire invoices of games played and cancellation fees.

Protests: Must be filed in writing via letter or e-mail to the League President within 24 hours of the end of the game; a \$50 fee must be received by the League Treasurer within 72 hours for the protest to be considered. The League President will directly rule on all protests. At the League President's discretion, they may bring the matter to the Board for a vote. Should the protest be upheld, the \$50 protest fee will be returned.

3.6 Code of Conduct: Entire League

All people associated with Monroe County Baseball Region are held to highest standards with regards to ethical conduct and sportsmanship. Any incidents not consistent with these standards should be reported immediately to the Board of Directors.

The following rules will apply:

- Any use of illegal players will mean automatic forfeiture of the game in which the infraction occurred

- Any player being ejected from a game will be suspended for a minimum of one (1) game. The player must attend the game(s) suspended for or the suspension continues until they attend the game(s).
- Any coach or spectator ejected from a game will not be allowed to attend:
 - 12u and younger: the next 1 game (nor be present at the field)
 - 13u and older: the next 2 games (nor be present at the field)
- A second ejection by a player, coach or spectator will be an automatic minimum 3 game suspension. The length of the suspension may be extended due to the nature of the incidents involved.
- A third ejection by a player, coach or spectator will be an automatic suspension for the remainder of the season. The length of the suspension may be extended due to the nature of the incidents involved.
- Other infractions of National rules or rules outlined in this Handbook will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors
- If a spectator is asked to leave the premises during a game, the team the spectator is associated with will be fined \$100. The team will not be allowed to play another game until the fee is paid. All games scheduled prior to payment of the fine will be declared a forfeit.

The final determination of the length of any suspension is determined by the respective League President and / or the Board of Directors.

3.7 Code of Conduct: Team Managers (Head Coach) and Assistant Coaches

- Managers will promptly return phone calls to Board members
- Managers shall cascade information from the Board to all players in a timely manner.
- Managers shall meet deadlines for the upcoming season as defined by the Board.
- Managers shall attend ALL coaches' meetings or send a suitable substitute. In the case when no substitute is available, they shall notify the League President in advance of their absence and follow up to obtain information that was missed
- Managers are NEVER to use players not on their roster in a game. Any manager / coach doing so will be IMMEDIATELY removed from their position and will not be allowed in the dugout. The team will forfeit all games where illegal players were used. This is a ZERO tolerance rule.
- Managers will keep all players in the dugouts during any game delayed by lightning. Failure to do so will be an automatic forfeit. Safety must come first.
- Managers will be held responsible for the behavior of their fans at games. Managers are expected to communicate proper fan behavior to all families of players.
- Managers are responsible for dealing with all issues associated with parents. Issues that cannot be resolved shall be escalated to the Program Director. The MCBR Board will only be involved in code of conduct violations.
- Managers shall complete all other duties, such as registration, outlined in this Handbook.
- Managers are expected to wear a sleeved shirt provided by their Program.

4. Program and Team Organization

A Program is a series of 1 or more teams within the same geographic boundaries. The list of the current Programs can be found on the MCBR Website. The following section describes the aspects of Program creation for participation in the Monroe County Baseball Region Leagues.

4.1 Establishing a Program

To form a new Program in MCBR/USSSA, an application must be sent to the Registrar to be reviewed by the Board of Directors. The application should be downloaded from the website, filled in completely and sent to the Registrar. If there is only 1 team in the Program, the head coach of that team may act as the Program director and be responsible for both Program Director and coaches' duties; the joint role must be approved by the MCBR Board. If the Program is overlapping existing geographic boundaries, an explanation is needed as to why a new charter is required. The application will be reviewed by the Board of Directors.

The Select League President will maintain a current list of Board approved "clubs" that are permitted to play in the Select League. Clubs must be facility-based organizations with multiple teams formed based on public tryouts. Approved club teams are not permitted to play in our Traditional Leagues. They have to play in our Select League combined into age level divisions with our Traditional Town Program teams that choose to play in the Select League. The Select League divisions only form each season when enough teams register for the Select League. Independent teams are not permitted to play in any MCBR league/division.

4.2 Registering a Team

Each team shall coordinate with their respective MCBR Town Program Director, then register for each upcoming new season by submitting a Head Coach registration on the MCBR website and completing the registration process once the MCBR Registrar indicates the season registration is open. The MCBR registrar shall review all teams registered and ensure the registration is mapped to the appropriate Program and coordinate with the President of the League / Program director with any issues associated with a new team not already identified within a Program.

The registration process for the 17U and Select League where tryouts are NOT required is documented in the flowchart below:

4.3 Team Player Tryout / Team Player Selection Process

There must be a team tryout or process for team creation established by each team for the various age groups. MCBR accepted practices for team creation are as follows:

A. **Tryout:** Program establishes a tryout date, time, and location for each respective age group. To be in compliance with MCBR tryout guidelines, the following must be met:

- Team tryout notification must be advertised on the Monroe County Baseball Region Website. A copy of your team/towns' try-out information must be given to the Monroe County Baseball Region Web Master a minimum of two weeks prior to the try-out date.
- The tryout shall be held on at least two different dates
- Tryout attendance must be sent to the Registrar within one week of tryout completion.
- In completing the roster selection, any tryout participant that resides in the Program boundaries specified must be selected before any player outside the Program boundaries (exception is grand-fathered players discussed in section 4.8.1). This includes the practice of having "alternates" on the roster. No non-boundary player can be used to the detriment of a boundary "alternate". Use of this tactic may result in possible Team/Program banishment from the League.

- Team roster must include all attendees for tryouts (Roster Submission - section 4.9)
- B. **Returning Team method:** Program determines that an entire team will be allowed to return with minor alteration (defined as a minimum of 85% of roster from previous season remains and 3 or less players are added to the roster via Program chosen method).
- C. **Alternative process:** Should an alternative team creation process be required by a Program, the League President must approve the process prior to team creation.
- D. **Senior League (16-17):** Manager may select his team without tryouts. This will allow a team to support a Varsity prep type team.

The following are suggested tryout and player acceptance guidelines for Programs:

- All players wishing to play Monroe County Baseball Region should be given a fair opportunity to join.
- Consider policy for players that are not present at one of the tryout days. Should players be eligible if they do not attend tryouts other than a returning player who is injured at the time of tryouts?
- Consider policy for contacting players. It is suggested that this is a formal process (i.e., letter, e-mail, telephone, coach discussion with player). It is suggested that each player should be advised of their status with the team within 72 hours of the last tryout.
- Establish a formal player acceptance form stating Program guidelines and demonstrating player acceptance for the upcoming season.

Once tryouts are completed, the team shall submit a roster using the standard form on the MCBR website. The registrar will review the roster and determine if the roster is within the guidelines of a legal roster per this handbook. Once the roster is approved, the team shall appear as a legally registered team on the website under their respective League.

4.4 Program/Team Geographic Boundaries

Rochester and surrounding counties are our League boundary. Town ("Town") means residing in town mentioned, City ("City") means residing in the city mentioned, and School District ("School District") means anyone attending school in the school district mentioned. Team boundaries are as follows:

AQUINAS: Aquinas School attendees

BATAVIA: The Town and School District of Batavia

BISHOP KEARNEY: Bishop Kearney School attendees

BRIGHTON: The Town and School District of Brighton

BROCKPORT: The Town of Sweden, Town of Clarkson and School District of Brockport.

CANADAIGUA: The Town and School District of Canandaigua.

CHURCHVILLE: Churchville-Chili District, Town of Scottsville, Wheatland-Chili School District

FAIRPORT: The Town of Perinton, the Town of Fairport, and the Fairport school district. In addition, the town of East Rochester and East Rochester School district were added in 2014.

GATES-CHILI: Gates-Chili School District

GENEVA: The City, Town, and School District of Geneva.

GREECE: The Town of Greece and Town of Charlotte, and the following School Districts: Athena, Arcadia, Olympia and Odyssey and Charlotte High School.

HAMLIN-KENDALL: The Town of Hamlin and Towns and School Districts in Orleans County (Holley, Kendall, etc.)

HENRIETTA: The Town of Henrietta, Town of Rush and the Rush Henrietta School District.

HFL: The Town of Mendon, Town of Honeoye Falls, and School District of HFL.

HILTON: The Town of Parma, Town of Hilton, and Hilton School District.

IRONDEQUOIT: The Town of Irondequoit and the following School Districts: East Irondequoit and West Irondequoit. (Some teams may be labeled West Irondequoit if coordinated with Irondequoit MCBR Town Director and all rostered players are from within that district.

LIVONIA: The Town of Livonia and the Livonia Central School District

MCQUAID: McQuaid School attendees

MENDON: Includes the towns of Honeoye Falls/ Lima, Mendon, the school district of Honeoye Falls/ Lima

PENFIELD: The Town and School District of Penfield

PITTSFORD: The Town and School District of Pittsford

ROCHESTER: The City and School District of Rochester (ex. Southside)

SODUS: The Town and School District of Sodus.

SPENCERPORT: The Town and School District of Spencerport

SWEDEN/CLARKSON: The Town of Sweden, Town of Clarkson and School District of Brockport.

VICTOR: The Town and School District of Victor

WAYLAND: The Town and School District of Wayland

WEBSTER: The Town and School District of Webster

4.5 Player Age Requirement

The age of any Monroe County Baseball Region player on April 30th of a given year will determine the minimum League age level that player can play at during that year for the purposes of defining the player's age classification. Players can play up in age, but cannot play down a League age level (no exception granted). (ie; player age 9 cannot play 8u League, player age 11 cannot play 10u League, player age 13 cannot play 12u, player age 16 cannot play 15u League. Our 17u League teams may include a few players that are player age 18 based upon specific written request and permission by MCBR Board members. This can be permitted since the 17u League insurance is actually 18u insurance.)

4.6 Team Roster Size

The minimum number of players allowed on the roster will be twelve (12) players (this includes alternates) and the maximum number of players will be twenty (20) players and five (5) coaches. 17U Leagues will have a maximum roster size of twenty (20) players and five (5) coaches.

4.7 Team Player Composition

Except for the Select League, teams must have 80% of their player roster from within the Team Geographic Boundaries stated in Section 4.4. Any exception must be approved by the respective League President AND the Board of Directors.

4.8 Player Eligibility

Players may try out for any team from any MCBR Town Program. If that team has enough players from within its Program boundary, then the player may try out for any other MCBR team in any town that does not have enough players from their Program boundary. Any player trying out for a team that resides within the boundaries (as defined in section 4.4) CAN NOT be cut, or be made an alternate, for the sole purpose of providing a spot for a non-boundary player. Cuts are to be made based on the evaluation of baseball skills. All non-boundary players

need to be reviewed and approved by the Registrar and respective League President prior to being added to the team roster.

4.8.1 Player "Grandfather clause"

Any players selected from outside the defined geographic boundary area (as described in Section 4.4) can stay with that team throughout their MCBR career. The player is grandfathered into that Program for his career (assumes resident status) and can continue to tryout on an annual basis for teams within that Program. Once a player leaves a Program to play for another geographical Program team, the grandfather clause is terminated; the player can only return to the other Program by following the tryout guidelines for a non-boundary player.

If it is determined that an out of boundary player was inappropriately selected by a team, that player may be removed at any time by the League President. That player is NOT covered by the grandfather clause for subsequent seasons.

4.8.2 Adding Player to Roster

A player can be added to roster only with written approval from the Registrar. The player added must come from the tryout roster submitted unless the respective League President and Board of Directors grants an exception.

4.8.3 Removing Player from Roster

If the coach wishes to remove a player from a team they must show just cause and get the approval of the respective League President and the Board of Directors.

4.8.4 Player Movement between Programs during the Season

No player may move from one Program to another Program within the same season. This is effective once the final team roster is submitted to the respective League President. It is strongly suggested that the player sign an acceptance letter and pay required fees for the respective Program. No exceptions can be made without the League President and Board of Directors approval.

Players may move between teams within a Program with the approval of the Program Director. Notification must be sent to the Registrar.

4.8.5 Player Call-ups within a Program (edited for clarification May 2022)

If a team is short players, they may call up players from a younger age league or lower level division in their league age, only after sending an email notice to the League President (stored for insurance purposes). The process for doing this is to notify the opposing coach and League President of the situation. Team may NOT bring down players from an older age group or higher level division in their league – even if the players are age eligible to participate in that League. For example – a 13U team may call up a 12-year-old playing 12U, but cannot bring down a 13-year-old playing 14U. Also, for purpose of determining what division is higher:

8u to 15u Division Names highest to lowest level of play; American-National-International; East is higher level than West when used. 17u- Seaver is highest level, then Kershaw.

4.8.6 Dual Roster

Effective in 2014, players will no longer be allowed to be on more than one MCBR roster for 8U-15U. Instead, the Player Call up process discussed in Section 4.8.5 should be used. However, one exception to this rule is that a player on a "club" team in the Select League may also be rostered on that player's Town

Program team in a Traditional Boundary League (The Town Program team cannot also be in the Select League).

4.9 Roster Submission

Effective with the 2019 MCBR Season, all player parents self-register their son/daughter using the designated season Player Registration links on our MCBR website (hosted by Sports Engine). All Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches register themselves using the designated season Coach Registration links on our MCBR website. The MCBR registrar will communicate and monitor timely completion of all team rosters for all Town Programs and maintain communication with Town Program Directors for complete list of teams registering each season.

The Head Coach of each team is responsible for ensuring all players have properly registered on the MCBR website, by reviewing his Sports Engine team page roster. Each MCBR team has a Sports Engine Team page accessible through the MCBR website (Sports Engine) or the Sports Engine App.

Each MCBR team must also maintain an accurate team roster all season long on their USSSA.com team account, for insurance purposes. All MCBR teams must procure their team insurance themselves directly through the USSSA.com website and communicate any questions directly with the designated USSSA NYS representative. As of October 2020, MCBR no longer is able to procure team insurance for MCBR participants.

4.10 Field Procurement

Each team will need to obtain fields for practices, home games, and rainout dates. The cost for any fields must be covered by the individual team and will not be managed by Monroe County Baseball Region. In addition, the manager will identify field availability as required by the respective League President at the beginning of the schedule process. Monroe County Baseball Region may obtain fields in certain situations. The League will utilize the fields made available as part of the scheduling process.

Managers are responsible for the quality of fields. Any field that is deemed to be a safety issue by the umpire or other coaches must be resolved prior to the next game. Failure to do so will mean all games will be removed from that field and the team will be required to play away games on those dates.

Any team not obtaining field usage by the scheduling deadline will be assigned all away games and games at Monroe County Baseball Region fields outlined above. As an away team you may need to share field costs in some cases.

4.11 Team Funding / Budget / Equipment

Each Town Program is responsible for raising the League registration fees for their MCBR teams. League fees are due per the schedule established at the League Meetings. FEES PAID ARE NON-REFUNDABLE, unless approved by the Board of Directors. The following items are covered as part of the registration fee:

- Umpire fees
- 3 dozen game balls
- End of the year awards (not applicable to Select League)
- Red Wing Day
- Coaches meetings
- MCC field fees
- Coaches' clinics, practice videos and instruction when available

The team will also be responsible for purchasing the following items above and beyond the cost of the entry fee:

- Field charges for Home field
- All Uniforms
- Team insurance through USSSA.com
- Game balls after 1st 3 dozen

Each team is responsible for providing all their own equipment

Each team is responsible for equipment certification, warranty, and safety verification.

4.12 Background checks

The safety of the players who participate in MCBR is of the utmost importance. Therefore, mandatory background checks (BCs) for every board member and rostered coach are required before they are permitted to participate in the upcoming MCBR/USSSA season. The process for background checks is documented under the Background Check and Coaching Certification page on the MCBR website. Only rostered coaches are permitted on the field or in the dugout. Scorekeepers must be on the official roster and pass the background check and coaching certification to be in the dugout.

4.13 Coaching Certifications

Coaches play a vital role to the best experience of players in MCBR. In order to provide extra instruction and training to our coaches, MCBR requires each coach on the submitted roster to complete the MCBR contracted certification training. Details of the certification training will be provided on the MCBR website on the Background Check and Coaching Certification webpage.

4.14 Off-Season Practicing

MCBR is only responsible for creating and administering MCBR games between MCBR participating teams (regular season and playoffs as scheduled by MCBR representatives). Town Program Directors and each team's Coaches are solely responsible for all team practice activities and non-MCBR games.

4.15 MCBR Home and Away Game Uniform Color Policy

MCBR no longer provides uniforms. For 12u and below, the home jersey in MCBR games can be either white or gray as the main color. Gray is ok for the home color as long as your dark/away jersey is not also gray. There are no other MCBR uniform regulations.

4.16 Medical Coverage

All medical claims from MCBR participants must follow the designated process through the team's USSSA.com team account and the processes designated by their USSSA.com team insurance policy and procedures. Coaches with questions about this should contact the current USSSA NYS representative.

5. Operational Baseball Rules

MCBR Leagues use rules governing USSSA Baseball as documented in the current USSSA Rule book. All national rules will apply unless stated in the local rules section. The current Local Rules for each MCBR League age, including pitching rules, will be found on the MCBR Website on the Handbook/Rules page.

It is recommended that coaches download the USSSA Baseball rules and the Local rules and bring them to games.

<http://www.usssabaseball.org/>



APPENDIX A: MCBR TOWN DIRECTOR/PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES

Each Director is responsible for the knowing the information in this Appendix and sharing the information with their coaches. For your convenience, print this Appendix and have it available as a reference during the season.

All programs/Town Directors should have procedures and individuals responsible to make sure the following items are addressed and completed:

- Complete tryouts and form teams by Aug 15; so, all are ready to register and prepare for Fall ball.
- Directors must be ready in early Oct to provide MCBR will list of teams participating in the upcoming MCBR season.
- Directors should be involved with head coaches with deciding what division in their league age level is most appropriate for their team. This should be figured out in Sept so teams are ready to answer all the questions that are part of our Coach/Team registration. Directors and experienced MCBR coaches in your program know our division ranking structure and it's on our website. MCBR will give head coaches draft divisional alignments within a couple days to appeal placement before the initial season schedule is drafted. Head coaches should not be initially thinking about this in Dec or Jan.
- Directors are responsible for making sure team payments are made/delivered to MCBR BY the stated due date. Know how each of your teams plan to pay MCBR if your teams pay MCBR individually by team or combined payment at the program level...if a team coach is sending a check to MCBR, Directors are to be involved and make sure coaches are collecting early and getting the payment to MCBR...late payments have to stop as teams form in Aug and full payments are due Jan 31.
- Have a designated “go to” coach in your program that fully understands all our MCBR processes and is very familiar with MCBR Procedures and the information and functions of our SE website and this person is who your new and lesser MCBR experienced coaches go to FIRST for answers and help. Only the Program Director should seek help from MCBR when no one in their program knows the answer:
 - Purchasing Team insurance procedures
 - Rostering rules
 - Boundary Rules
 - Team registration (Each coach register themselves)(Coach cannot roster everyone)
 - Player registration (Player parent must register their player)
- Cont. next page

Appendix A – MCBR TOWN DIRECTOR/PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES

- Entering scores (how to use SE app and/or browser Edit functions)
- Game Id entry (via web browser)(Web browser preferred method for all game edits)
- Game location entry
- Creating events
- Recording scores
- Scheduling dynamics for each age and division
- Umpire notification protocols
- MCC protocols
- NAYS Coaching training completion for coaches new to MCBR (also push coaches to not answer “no” to coach registration question “Are you NAYS certified?”, when they really are and are too lazy to go find it. Makes much more work for MCBR volunteer.
- Be sure all HCs reports record all scores (winning team) on web schedule for Regular Season Games
- Directors need to make sure their Head Coaches know the MCBR expectations for rescheduling make up games-and make sure they are playing them-work with other Town Director to resolve issues with coaches avoiding games and are having availability issues/player attendance issues.
 - Get makeup game on calendar within 3 days of rainout/cancellation-play makeup as soon as possible and DO NOT just move it to end of season.
- Counsel teams on MCBR playoff participation. No last minute decisions delaying process.
- Review and report all unplayed games to MCBR POC with reasons why they were not played – last week of the season.